



Tempe Art in Private Development



Best Western Inn of Tempe

670 N. Scottsdale Road

Garry Price

Sentinels, 1997

Steel-reinforced concrete

Photo: Craig Smith

Description: Five large abstract towers, ranging from 12 to 16 feet tall, serve as sculptural icons identifying this large hotel, assuming the role of sentinels guarding the eastern entrance. As the viewer moves around, they seem constantly to shift profiles and change heights. From one viewpoint they appear as planar sheets; from another they resemble square based towers. The sun as it passes overhead creates an ever moving pattern of shadow, and casts light onto the towers illuminating and then darkening their modeled color, creating a visually tantalizing array of sensitive prismatic qualities. In addition, the towers are bottom-lit to enhance their dramatic effect at night. Garry Price notes, “I’m drawn to the seams of the world. The edges between the riparian zone and forest, fast water and smooth flow currents, industrial and residential, layers in a cliff face. It’s the dialog of differences that spark my curiosity. A direct conversation of disparate elements is what I work to visually describe.”

Artist biography: Garry Price has been doing art projects that strive to enhance a public place, creating sculptures that add vitality, significance and elegance to the community experience. He works to enliven the site with a glimpse of the rich layers of human and natural history that give meaning to a place. Price’s projects have used functional elements and sculpture in many materials to design attractive and thoughtful public places. He has a strong ability to conceptualize and work with a wide range of materials to create works that go beyond easy interpretation and can sustain interest over repeated viewings. Materials choices are determined by the appropriateness to the site and to the idea. Price’s work has been published around the globe in journals such as *Ceramics Monthly*, *Interiors*, *Interior Design* and *American Craft*.

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